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ACTION HA-09

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EUR-01	H-01	INRE-00	INR-01	IO-19	LAB-04	L-03
ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	PA-02	PRS-01	P-01
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 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5522
 NFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
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INCLAS BRUSSELS 11947

DEPT FOR HA

NO. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PHUM, BE, SW, NO

SUBJECT: HEAD OF BELGIAN WALLENBERG COMMITTEE REQUESTS US SUPPORT OF RAOUL WALLENBERG'S CANDIDACY FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

• THIS IS AN ACTION MESSAGE. PLEASE SEE PARAGRAPH 5.

• SIMONE LUCKI, PRESIDENT OF THE BELGIAN COMMITTEE FOR RAOUL WALLENBERG, MET WITH POLOFFS 17 SEPTEMBER TO REQUEST RESIDENT BUSH'S SUPPORT FOR WALLENBERG'S NOBEL PEACE

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RIZE CANDIDACY. WALLENBERG, THE SWEDISH DIPLOMAT WHO HELPED RESCUE THOUSANDS OF HUNGARIAN JEWS DURING WWII AND THEN DISAPPEARED IN 1945 WHILE IN SOVIET CUSTODY, HAS BEEN NOMINATED IN ABSENTIA FOR TWO REASONS, LUCKI SAID.

• THE PRINCIPAL GOAL OF THE NOMINATION IS TO RECOGNIZE THE SWEDISH DIPLOMAT FOR HIS VALIANT EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF HUNGARIAN JEWS. HOWEVER, WALLENBERG SUPPORTERS HOPE ALSO TO FORCE RUSSIA TO REVEAL THE TRUTH CONCERNING HIS INCARCERATION AND ALLEGED DEATH IN 1947.

• LUCKI HAS COLLECTED LETTERS SUPPORTING WALLENBERG'S CANDIDACY FROM A CONSTELLATION OF BELGIAN POLITICAL EAVYWEIGHTS, INCLUDING FORMER PRIME MINISTER MARTENS, THE CURRENT JUSTICE AND FOREIGN MINISTERS, FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER EYSKENS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE BELGIAN SENATE AND THE FORMER CHIEF OF THE BELGIAN SUPREME COURT. SHE ASKED US TO REQUEST A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BUSH SUPPORTING WALLENBERG'S CANDIDACY. LUCKI STRESSED THAT WALLENBERG'S CANDIDACY WAS PRESENTED IN ADVANCE OF THE NOBEL COMMITTEE'S DEADLINES AND HE IS A BONA FIDE CANDIDATE.

• ACTION REQUESTED: WE WERE UNABLE TO TELL LUCKI HOW, OR IF, THE USG FORMALLY DECIDES TO SUPPORT A CANDIDATE FOR THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE. WE ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT WALLENBERG'S SUPPORTERS IN THE U.S. HAVE ALREADY MOUNTED A

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PARALLEL EFFORT. PLEASE CONVEY LUCKI'S REQUEST TO THE APPROPRIATE DELIBERATIVE BODY AND ADVISE US OF THE OUTCOME. THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.

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